ATT Working Group on Transparency and Reporting

Co-chairs' Report from the Group's First Meeting

(2 attachments)

The ATT Working Group on Transparency and Reporting (WGTR) held its first meeting on 8 February 2017 in Geneva, at the premises of the ATT Secretariat. See the attached Draft Agenda, which was adopted. In practice, agenda item 3 was subsumed under agenda item 2.

The meeting was attended by 73 participants, representing 34 States Parties, 8 Signatory States, 2 international organisations and 10 civil society organisations.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to identify priority topics for the Group's work on the basis of an issues paper provided by the Co-chairs which also incorporated prior input by interested parties. Additionally, an update on the current status of mandatory reporting was provided by the Head of Secretariat, who also provided an update on current plans for upgrades of the ATT's IT platform, and a representative of the Stimson Center described the results of a survey on impediments to reporting in one region.

In the Co-chairs' view, the sense of the meeting was that the mandate of the WGTR did not preclude initial work on priority topics given the unique situation - the need to start up the WGTR in order to generate a proposal of topics for the Group's work in the period between CSP3 and CSP4, without prior guidance from CSP2 as to topics for the period leading up to CSP3.

In attachment 2, the Co-chairs' attempt to capture the result of the discussion held on prioritization is presented in the form of a revised Issues Paper.

On the basis of the priorities identified, the Co-chairs stress the importance of written inputs on these topics from interested participants in good time before the next meeting of the WGTR. The Co-chairs suggest that such contributions be submitted at latest 10 days before the meeting.

In the Co-chairs' assessment, it would be desirable to hold a one-day second meeting of the WGTR in conjunction with the CSP3 Informal Preparatory Meeting to be held in Geneva on Friday 7 April. This meeting will be devoted to the discussion of priority topics identified at the Group's first meeting. An exact meeting date will be announced by the Presidency of CSP3 against the background of the overall demand for meeting time.

The need for a third meeting of the WGTR (e.g. at the time of the last Informal Preparatory Meeting on Thursday 1 June) could be assessed towards the end of the second meeting, bearing in mind the

requirement for the Group to also finalize a proposal for a CSP3 decision covering the WGTR's work in the period between CSP3 and CSP4. Such a mandate would need to take into account progress already made in different substantive areas. The earliest possible discussion of such a mandate would thus be towards the end of the Group's second meeting.

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